

Message Text

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71

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ADP-00 AID-20 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12

CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-09 H-02 L-03

NSC-10 PA-03 PRS-01 SS-15 USIA-12 RSR-01 /173 W

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R 301403 Z APR 73

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5417

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: ETRD, EGEN, PFOR, XY, NG

SUBJECT: CEAO AND ANGLOPHONE AFRICAN STATES

1. IN COURSE OF TALK APRIL 30 PRESIDENT DIORI STATED THAT FIRST PIECE OF IMPORTANT BUSINESS HE INTENDS DEVOTE HIMSELF TO AS PRESIDENT CEAO IS TO GET KEY ANGLOPHONE AFRICAN STATES ON BOARD, ESPECIALL NIGERIA AND GHANA . HE SAID HE WAS ANXIOUS DISPEL FEELING ON PART OF ANGLO-PHONES THAT CEAO WAS SOME SORT OF FRENCH- CONTROLLED INSTRUMENT DESIGNED TO PERPETUATE EXCLUSIVE TRADING LINKS BETWEEN EUROPE AND AFRICA. PRESIDENT EMPHASIZED URGENCY AND IMPORTANCE HE ATTACHES TO ENROLLING ANGLOPHONES EARLY ON. IT HAD TAKEN FOUR YEARS, HE NOTED, TO BRING CEAO INTO BEING, AND WEST AFRICA COULDN' T AFFORD ANOTHER FOUR YEAR WAIT TO ENLIST PARTICIPATION OF KEY ANGLOPHONE STATES.

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DIORI SAID HE WAS VERY ENCOURAGED BY NEW FLEXIBILITY DEMONSTRATED BY EEC, PARTICULARLY IN RESPECT TO WILLINGNESS DROP REVERSE PREFERENCES AND ORGANIZE PRIMARY PRODUCT PRICE SUPPORT SYSTEM. ANGLOPHONES WOULD BE NO LESS INFLUENCED BY PROVISIONS LATTER THAN FRANCOPHONES. THERE WAS ALSO URGENT QUESTION OF ARRIVING AT FUNCTIONING PAYMENTS ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN CFA AND STERLING ZONE COUNTRIES.

2. HE SPOKE WITH SOMEWHAT LESS PRECISION OF ACCORDINGLY UNDERTAKING VISIT TO ACCRA, LOME, COTONOU AND LAGOS IN HIS CAPACITY AS CEAO PRESIDENT, AS SOON AS HE COULD IN MAY. IT WAS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THIS WILL TAKE PLACE BEFORE SCHEDULED MAY 9-13 ABIDJAN AFRICAN MEETING UNDER ECA- OAU- AFDB AEGIS, BUT THIS APPEARS DOUBTFUL.
MCCLELAA D

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ACCRA
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